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* 2783 *Q.*—Sri K. C. GOPALAN UNNI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) Whether the constitution of Village and Firka Development Committees have been completed in Malabar; and

(*b*) The method for choosing members to these committees?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM: (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) The Village Development Committees have been formed in the Malabar district mainly by nomination of persons who are, in the Collector's opinion, representative of the various sections of the population, are aware of the needs and aspirations of the villagers and are willing to work for the common good. As regards the Committees for Planning areas, the non-official members constituting the Committees, other than the Presidents of Panchayat Boards, Members of the District Board elected from the area and Members of the State Legislature representing the area, represent agriculturists, special workers and other special interests. These persons are nominated by the Collector.

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP: When the general circular constituting the Committees issued by the Government and supplied to Members of the Legislature provided that the Committees should be constituted by election, may I know why in Malabar a different method was followed, that is the procedure of nomination of members to the Committees? May I also know whether it was done by the Collector in contravention of the instructions issued in the general circular of the Government or on the basis of a secret circular especially issued for that purpose?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM: It was done not only in Malabar but even in every district wherever the Collector was of the opinion that the holding of election will not be advisable or desirable. The Collector was given the discretion to constitute Committees by nomination. It was only under these powers that the Collectors have nominated in those areas and not only in Malabar.

Register of Medical Practitioners

* 2784 *Q.*—Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the names of any medical practitioners were removed from Register of Medical Practitioners in May-June 1955; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY: (*a*) & (*b*) Yes, Sir.

The following two names were removed by the Madras Medical Council from the Medical Register:—

(1) Dr. T. K. Mohan, M.B.B.S., 303, Thambu Chetti street, Madras, for one month from 2nd June 1955, for issuing a revaccination certificate to an infant who went to Malaya whereas he had performed only primary vaccination.

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(2) Dr. C. Oommen, L.M., & S., Mavelikara, Travancore-Cochin State. Name permanently removed for publishing his name under the heading "Learn Homeopathy" in the Hindu", dated 13th February and 27th March 1954.

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : The Hon. Minister was pleased to say that in the first instance the name of the medical practitioner was removed for a period of one month. As a matter of fact his name was removed by the Medical Council for one year and the Government intervened and reduced the period to one month. Inasmuch as the offence committed by the medical practitioner is a serious one may I know why the Government in this important case reduced the punishment instead of enhancing it?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : The Government considered the appeal and in view of the explanation he has given the Government reduced the punishment to one month.

Chettuvai and Kuyyalippalam bridges

* 2785 *Q.*—SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state with reference to the answer to Question No. 256 given on 13th December 1954 the present stage of the proposal for the construction of Chettuvai bridge in Ponnani taluk, Malabar?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI : The proposal to construct the Chettuvai Bridge in Ponnani taluk was considered as a Part II Scheme for the State Budget for 1955–56 but it had to be deferred for want of funds. The question as to how the work could be financed is engaging the attention of the Government.

* 2786 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Kuyyalippalam bridge near the Tellicherry Railway station in North Malabar was completely damaged recently; and

(*b*) if so, when the bridge will be repaired or rebuilt?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI : (*a*) The wood in the bridge members disintegrated badly due to age and some wooden planks of the bridge deck were found removed on 25th June 1955.

(*b*) Immediate repairs are being carried out. The question of reconstructing the bridge is one for consideration by the Malabar District Board and the Tellicherry Municipality.